

2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

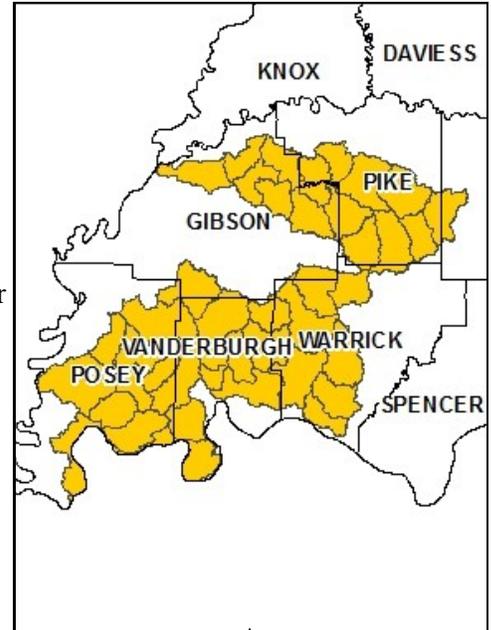
LEAD DISTRICT: WARRICK
COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: GIBSON, PIKE, POSEY, VANDERBURGH
TARGET WATERSHEDS: BIG CREEK, BAYOU CREEK OHIO RIVER, STONE COE CREEK-PATOKA RIVER, SOUTH FORK PATOKA RIVER, PATOKA RIVER, PEGEON CREEK, BIG PIGEON CREEK, CYPRESS CREEK
PROJECT NAME: SOUTHWEST INDIANA COVER CROP
PROJECT DATES: 1/1/2012-12/31/2012
PROJECT AMOUNT: \$20,000



Purpose: Encourage and establish the use of cover crops for both agricultural and urban communities

For the past four years, the southwest SWCDs have pooled their CWI grant funds together to support the agricultural initiative and would like to continue doing so as the program has impacted over 8,000 acres combined in the counties involved and has been a great way to show county and state officials the importance of our soil and how we work to preserve it. The farmers enrolled in this program have also been huge advocates for cover crops and their testimonies have drawn more interest into the program which will be hard to fund by the districts without CWI funding to assist. Application of cover crops has been done by aerial seeding or ground coverage by no-till equipment.

This project brings in outreach to the urban communities by offering a garden cover crop program. The program expanded and include gardens and flower beds and demonstrate to the public that cover crops control erosion, break up heavy soils, improve soil fertility and act as a weed control thus improving the quality of runoff water into backyard streams and ponds.



TOTAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

COVER CROP COST SHARE-1,641 ACRES
COVER CROP NO COST SHARE-2,247 ACRES
GARDEN COVER CROPS-20 ACRES
RAIN BARRELS-120

This project impacted 3,908 urban and rural acres in Southern Indiana.

Cost Share,
\$20,000